Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

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Dear Colleagues,

Many of you will be aware of comments in Melbourne's *Age* newspaper today by the Rev Francis Macnab in which he outlines his call for a 'new faith'.

He acknowledges that many people within the Uniting Church will 'resent' his views whilst others may agree with him. Dr Macnab is a minister in good standing within the Uniting Church.

I have authorized Rev Professor Chris Mostert, Professor of Systematic Theology of the Uniting Church Theological College to provide a theological response to the reported views, and to speak publically to this document.

It is attached for your information.

Likewise the Synod website has information and links to the Basis of Union, specifically paragraphs 3 and 4 ('Built upon the lord Jesus Christ' and 'Christ rules and renews the Church'); paragraph 5 ('The Biblical witness') and paragraph 11 ('Scholarly Interpreters').

I would like to reiterate the Uniting Church's abiding commitment to ecumenical and inter-faith understanding and dialogue. We regret any offence that may have been caused to other members of the Christian family or people of other faiths in statements made to the media or used in St Michael's advertising campaign.

Uniting Church members who have concerns are welcome to contact the offices of the Uniting Church Synod.

Furthermore, I would like to reassure people that no monies donated to Uniting Church agencies or Synod have been used in this matter.

Rev Sue Gormann
Acting Moderator
Uniting Church in Australia,
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania